



## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

29 December 1950

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Projecting Electronic Ray

As indicated in my memorandum of 11 December 1950, the matter of the "Projecting Electronic Ray" has been discussed with the inventor and examined by representatives of this Agency. During this discussion, it was noted that the invention was considered by Army Ordnance and the National Inventors' Council several times during the period 1936 to 1942, and was found to be infeasible and of no interest to the United States Government.

My representatives concur with these findings.

*not signed - See Memo for  
Record*

WALTER B. SMITH  
Director



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WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT  
SUBJECT: Projecting Electronic Ray

As requested in your memorandum of 7 December 1950, the matter of the Projecting Electronic Ray, invented by Mr. Arthur W. Marchant, has been discussed with Mr. Wells Hlodgett Priest and with his associates, and has been thoroughly examined by my organization.

It has also been found that the invention was considered by the Army Ordnance and the National Inventors' Council several times during the period 1936 to 1942 and was found to be of no interest to the United States Government.

A thorough examination of past records and of the material submitted by Mr. Marchant convinced my men that there is no reason for action or commitments at this time. I therefore consider the matter closed and have instructed this Agency to return all material supplied by Messrs. Marchant and Priest.



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MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Projecting Electronic Ray

As requested in your memorandum of 7 December 1950, the matter of the Projecting Electronic Ray, invented by Mr. Arthur W. Marchant, has been discussed with Mr. Wells Elodgett Priest and with his associates, and has been thoroughly examined by my organization.

The idea of the Ray was originally offered to the United States Government in 1936, and was the subject of an investigational contract, of 9 May 1936, between the Army Ordnance and the Marchant Associates, Inc. The contract was terminated on 8 October 1937, due to failure of the inventor to fulfill his contractual obligations.

The matter was reviewed by the Army Ordnance in 1937, upon a recommendation of Mr. James Roosevelt, and in 1938 as the result of an inquiry by Senator H. C. Lodge, Jr. In 1940 the matter was reopened by an offer of the inventor to modify the basic idea for use as an "airplane detector." In all cases, Army Ordnance reviews failed to find valid reasons for a positive action.

Early in 1942 the same basic idea was submitted to the National Inventors Council which requested technical information necessary for evaluation. This information was not supplied and the project of evaluation was abandoned.

A careful examination of all material submitted by Mr. Marchant and of the pertinent records and files of the Army Ordnance and the National Inventors Council lead my men to conclude that Mr. Marchant's ideas do not merit any immediate commitments by the United States Government. I have, therefore, instructed the Agency to return to Messrs. Marchant and Priest all material supplied by them and to consider the matter closed.